In the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.   (Previously presented) A video distribution system that distributes video data to a user terminal which can connect to a network, comprising:

a distribution list generating device that generates a distribution list that defines a distribution order of said video data to said user terminal and includes a link name that links to video data as a distribution request destination;

a link list generating device that generates a link list that is a correspondence list between said link name and a video data file name corresponding to said link name; and

a link list updating device that updates the video data file name corresponding to the link name in said link list to another video data file name depending on distribution conditions,

wherein said video data is distributed based on said link list.

2.   (Original) A video distribution system according to claim 1 wherein, in the case in which said video data is associated with distribution condition information that includes as said distribution conditions at least one of the distribution time information that designates the time and duration for distribution, distribution area information that designates the distribution area, cumulative distribution number information that limits the cumulative number of distributions, and attribute information about the user,

said link list updating device updates the video data file name corresponding to said link name to a video data file name of a video data satisfying the distribution conditions included in said distribution condition information.

3.   (Original) A video distribution system according to claim 1 wherein, in the case in which predetermined request information is received from said user terminal, said link list updating device updates the video data file name corresponding to the link name to said video data file name corresponding to said request information.

4. (Original) A video distribution system according to claim 1, wherein a video data selecting device that selects video data to be subsequently distributed based on the information about the video data that is being distributed is further provided; and

said link list updating device updates the video data file name corresponding to said link name to a video data file name of the video data selected by said video data selecting device.

5. (Original) A video distribution system according to claim 1 wherein, in the case in which said video data is further associated with the information about said video data, further comprising:

a video data selecting device that refers to said information about the video data that is scheduled for distribution and selects video data to be distributed thereafter; and

said link list updating device updates the video data file name corresponding to the link name to said video data file name of the video data that has been selected by said video data selecting device.

6. (Original) A video distribution system according to claim 1 wherein said link list updating device updates the video data file name by referring to the priority order list that determines the priority order in the distribution of the video data.

7. (Previously presented) A video distribution system that distributes video data to a user terminal that can connect to a network, comprising:

a distribution list generating device for generating a distribution list defining a distribution order of said video data to said user terminal and including a link name which links to video data or another distribution list as distribution request destinations;

a link list generating device for generating a link list which is a correspondence list between said link name and a video data file name or a distribution list name corresponding to said link name; and

a link list updating device for updating the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to the link name in said link list to another video data file name or another distribution list name depending on distribution conditions,

wherein said video data is distributed based on said link list.

8.   (Previously presented) A video distribution method for distributing video data to a user terminal that can be connected to a network, comprising the steps of:

generating a distribution list that defines a distribution order of said video data to said user terminal and includes a link name linked to video data as a distribution request destination;

generating a link list that is a correspondence list between said link name and a video data file name corresponding to the link name; and

updating the video data file name corresponding to the link name in said link list to another video data file name depending on distribution conditions;

wherein said video data is distributed based on said link list.

9.   (Original) A video distribution method according to claim 8 wherein, when said video data is associated with distribution time information for specifying a time or a period as a distribution condition, distribution area information for specifying a distribution area, cumulative distribution number information for limiting the cumulative distribution number, or distribution condition information including more than one of user's attribution information,

said updating step for updating said link list updates a video data file name corresponding to said link list name to a video data file name of a video data which satisfy the distribution condition contained in said distribution condition information.

10.   (Previously presented) A video distribution method for distributing a video data to a user terminal that can be connected to a network, the video distribution method comprising the steps of:

generating a distribution list that defines a distribution order of said video data to said user terminal and includes a link name which is linked to video data or another distribution list as a distribution request destination;

generating a link list that is a correspondence list between said link name and a video data file name or a distribution list name corresponding to said link name; and

updating the video data file name or said distribution list name corresponding to the link name in said link list to another video data file name or another distribution list name depending on distribution conditions,

wherein said video data is distributed based on said link list.

11. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program for a video distribution system which distributes video data to a user terminal which can be connected to a network, the program causing performance of a method comprising the steps of:

generating a distribution list defining a distribution order of said video data to said user terminal including a link name which is linked with the video data as a distribution request destination;

generating a link list which is a correspondence list between said link name and a video data file name corresponding to said link name; and

updating the video data file name corresponding to the link name in said link list to another video data file name depending on distribution conditions,

wherein said video data is distributed based on said link list.

12. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein, when said video data is associated with distribution time information for specifying a time or a period as a distribution condition, distribution area information for specifying a distribution area, cumulative distribution number information for limiting the cumulative distribution number, or distribution condition information including more than one of users attribution information, said step of updating said link list updates the video data file name corresponding to said link name to the video data file name of a video data which satisfies the distribution conditions contained in said distribution condition information.

13. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program for a video distribution system which distributes video data to a user terminal which can be connected to a network, the program causing performance of a method comprising the steps of:

generating a distribution list which defines a distribution order of said video data to said user terminal and contains a link name which is linked to video data or another distribution list as a distribution request destination;

generating a link list which is a correspondence list between said link name and a video data file name or a distribution list name corresponding to said link name; and

updating the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to said link name in said link list to another video data file name or another distribution list name depending on distribution conditions,

wherein said video data is distributed based on said link list.

14.   (New) A video distribution system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of pieces of the video data are distributed in accordance with the distribution order defined by the distribution list, and the link list updating device updates the video data file name corresponding to the link name to the other video data file name while the distribution of the video data is performed.

15.   (New) A video distribution system according to claim 1, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, the link list updating device obtains a distribution state and updates the video data file name corresponding to the link name to the other video data file name in accordance with the distribution state thus obtained and the distribution conditions.

16.   (New) A video distribution system according to claim 1, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, the link list updating device updates the video data file name corresponding to the link name to the other video data file name a predetermined time before a scheduled time for distributing the video data.

17.   (New) A video distribution system according to claim 15, wherein the link list updating device periodically obtains a distribution log as the distribution state.

18.   (New) A video distribution system according to claim 1, wherein the link list updating device updates a video data file name stored in a first video distribution server to another video data file name stored in a second video distribution server.

19.   (New) A video distribution system according to claim 7, wherein a plurality of pieces of the video data are distributed in accordance with the distribution order defined by the distribution list, and the link list updating device updates the video data file name or the distribution list name

corresponding to the link name to the other video data file name or the other distribution list name while the distribution of the video data is performed.

20. (New) A video distribution system according to claim 7, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, the link list updating device obtains a distribution state and updates the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to the link name to the other video data file name or the other distribution list name in accordance with the distribution state thus obtained and the distribution conditions.

21. (New) A video distribution system according to claim 7, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, the link list updating device updates the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to the link name to the other video data file name or the other distribution list name a predetermined time before a scheduled time for distributing the video data.

22. (New) A video distribution system according to claim 20, wherein the link list updating device periodically obtains a distribution log as the distribution state.

23. (New) A video distribution system according to claim 7, wherein the link list updating device updates a video data file name or a distribution list name stored in a first video distribution server to another video data file name or another distribution list name stored in a second video distribution server.

24. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 8, wherein a plurality of pieces of the video data are distributed in accordance with the distribution order defined by the distribution list, and the video data file name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name while the distribution of the video data is performed.

25. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 8, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, a distribution state is obtained and the video data file name

corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name in accordance with the distribution state thus obtained and the distribution conditions.

26. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 8, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, the video data file name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name a predetermined time before a scheduled time for distributing the video data.

27. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 25, wherein a distribution log is periodically obtained as the distribution state.

28. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 8, wherein a video data file name stored in a first video distribution server is updated to another video data file name stored in a second video distribution server.

29. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 10, wherein a plurality of pieces of the video data are distributed in accordance with the distribution order defined by the distribution list, and the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name or the other distribution list name while the distribution of the video data is performed.

30. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 10, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, a distribution state is obtained and the video data file name of the distribution list name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name or the other distribution list name in accordance with the distribution state thus obtained and the distribution conditions.

31. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 10, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name or the other

distribution list name a predetermined time before a scheduled time for distributing the video data.

32. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 30, wherein a distribution log is periodically obtained as the distribution state.

33. (New) A video distribution method according to claim 10, wherein a video data file name or a distribution list name stored in a first video distribution server is updated to another video data file name or another distribution list name stored in a second video distribution server.

34. (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein a plurality of pieces of the video data are distributed in accordance with the distribution order defined by the distribution list, and the video data file name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name while the distribution of the video data is performed.

35. (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, a distribution state is obtained and the video data file name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name in accordance with the distribution state thus obtained and the distribution conditions.

36. (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, the video data file name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name a predetermined time before a scheduled time for distributing the video data.

37. (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 35, wherein the distribution log is periodically obtained as the distribution state.

38. (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein a video data file name stored in a first video distribution server is updated to another video data file name stored in a second video distribution server.

39.   (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 13, wherein a plurality of pieces of the video data are distributed in accordance with the distribution order defined by the distribution list, and the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name or the other distribution list name while the distribution of the video data is performed.

40.   (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 13, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, a distribution state is obtained and the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name or the other distribution list name in accordance with the distribution state thus obtained and the distribution conditions.

41.   (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 13, wherein while the distribution of the video data is performed, the video data file name or the distribution list name corresponding to the link name is updated to the other video data file name or the other distribution list name a predetermined time before a scheduled time for distributing the video data.

42.   (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 40, wherein the distribution log is periodically obtained as the distribution state.

43.   (New) A computer-readable medium according to claim 13, wherein a video data file name or a distribution list name stored in a first video distribution server is updated to another video data file name or another distribution list name stored in a second video distribution server.